

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing mailpieces comprising:
 - (a) detecting information present on at least one surface of a mailpiece and applying a machine-readable identification code onto the mailpieces;
 - (b) transmitting the detected information and ~~the~~ an appertaining identification code to an interface computer[[:]] and
 - (~~e~~)—storing the detected information and the appertaining ~~pertinent~~ identification code ~~as data~~;
 - (~~e~~)(c) accessing the stored data; information and the stored identification code and
 - (~~e~~)—determining address information on the basis of the detected and stored information;
 - (~~f~~)(d) comparing the detected address information with address information present in a database;
 - (~~g~~)(e) associating the detected address information with new address information on the basis of the comparison that has been carried out;
 - (~~h~~)(f) transmitting the associated new address information and the appertaining identification code to the interface computer;
 - (~~i~~)(g) detecting the identification code applied onto the mailpieces[[:]] and[[:]]
 - (~~j~~)—applying the new address information onto the mailpiece, whereby the new address information is applied as a function of the identification code.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising processing the mailpieces according to a two-stage process, comprising preliminarily sorting the mailpieces ~~in a first sorting step~~ and, separately, sorting the mailpieces into smaller units ~~in a second sorting step~~, and detecting the information present on the surface of the mailpiece and converting the address information present on the mailpiece into the new address information during the preliminary sorting ~~first sorting step~~.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ascertaining whether the detected address information contains a first postal code, and converting the first postal code into a postal code that matches ~~correct~~ the new address information.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising applying the new address information onto the mailpiece in coded form.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the address information comprises a barcode.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the address information at least partially in plain text.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising carrying out ~~at least one sorting step~~ one of the preliminary sorting and the sorting the mailpieces into smaller units as a function of the new address information.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising transporting the mailpieces at least over a segment as a function of the new address information.

9. (Currently Amended) A device for processing mailpieces comprising:
- a) a ~~detection~~ device ~~capable of detecting~~ that detects information present on at least one surface of the mailpieces and a printer to apply a machine-readable identification code onto the mailpieces;
 - b) an interface computer comprising memory for storing the detected information;
 - c) processing stations comprising a processor ~~capable of accessing~~ that accesses the stored detected information and the appertaining stored identification codes, and ~~capable of the processor determines~~ determining address information on the basis of the stored detected information;
 - d) a database comprising address information and a comparison unit ~~adapted to compare~~ that compares the detected address information with address information present in the database,
 - e) a processor ~~programmed to associate~~ that associates the detected address information with new address information on the basis of a comparison of the detected address information with the address information that is present in the database;
 - f) a transmitter ~~capable of transmitting~~ that transmits the new address information and the identification code from the processing stations to the interface computer; and,
 - g) a device ~~capable of detecting~~ that detects the identification code applied onto the mailpieces and ~~capable of applying~~ a device that applies the new address information onto the mailpiece as a function of the identification code.